Supporting structured literacy with decodable text

#### 1. What is decodable text?

Decodable text is carefully written using specific phonics patterns that students have already been taught. These texts allow emerging readers to apply decoding strategies, reinforcing sound-spelling correspondences for mastery and fluency.

### 2. Why are decodable texts important?

Decodable texts support the development of orthographic mapping—the brain's ability to store and retrieve words efficiently. For early and striving readers, this explicit practice builds confidence and automaticity in reading.

#### 3. What is phonics instruction?

Phonics instruction teaches the relationship between sounds (phonemes) and the letters or groups of letters (graphemes) that represent those sounds in writing. Effective phonics instruction is systematic, explicit and cumulative.

# 4. What does "structured literacy" mean?

Structured literacy is an evidence-based approach to reading that emphasizes phonology, sound-symbol relationships, syllable structure, morphology, syntax and semantics. It is recommended by the International Dyslexia Association and aligned with the Science of Reading.

#### 5. What is UFLI?

UFLI stands for the University of Florida Literacy Institute. UFLI Foundations is a widely adopted phonics program based on structured literacy principles. It provides a sequential scope and sequence for teaching foundational reading skills in K-2 and intervention settings.

# 6. How do Meg and Greg books align with UFLI?

Each Meg and Greg book focuses on specific phonics skills—like digraphs, silent e, vowel teams, or r-controlled vowels - that correspond to UFLI lesson ranges. This makes the series ideal for reinforcement after targeted instruction.

The UFLI Scope & Sequence can be found on the UFLI Decodable Text Guide.



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9781459824935



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### 7. Who should use Meg and Greg books?

These books are ideal for:

- Struggling readers in Grades 2–4
- English language learners
- Students with dyslexia or other reading challenges
- Small group, Tier 2 intervention or home reading support

### 8. What is the co-reading format?

Meg and Greg books use a shared reading model:

- The fluent reader (adult, teacher, or peer) reads the text on the left-hand pages
- The developing reader reads the shaded, decodable sections on the righthand pages designed to match their current phonics skills.

This model builds fluency and comprehension simultaneously.

# 9. Can I use these books outside of a phonics program?

Yes. While designed to align with structured phonics instruction, Meg and Greg books can also be used for fluency practice, tutoring sessions or paired reading at home. Each book includes four short, engaging stories with built-in review of phonics concepts.

# 10. How are these books designed to support dyslexic readers?

Meg and Greg uses:

- A dyslexia-friendly font
- Ample white space
- Predictable story structure
- High-interest, age-appropriate content
- Controlled vocabulary that supports decoding, not guessing







